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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
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Motoo Sumida et al.)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)	
Application No.: Unassigned)	Examiner: Unassigned
)	
Filed: October 19, 2004)	Confirmation No.: Unassigned
)	
For: ASTAXANTHIN MEDIUM-CHAIN)	
FATTY ACID ESTER, PRODUCTION)	
METHOD OF THE SAME, AND)	
COMPOSITION COMPRISING THE)	
SAME)	

FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the accompanying information is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Also enclosed is a copy of the International Search Report dated August 12, 2003.

FOREIGN PATENTS

1. Japanese Patent Application No. 11-290094 A, published October 26, 1999.
2. Japanese Patent Application No. 1-202261 A, published August 15, 1989.
3. Japanese Patent Application No. 7-300421 A, published November 14, 1995.

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

1. VINCENT et al., "Variation de la composition en acides gras des monoesters de zeaxanthine et d' astaxanthine dans l'ovaire et l'hepatopancresa de Panaeus schmitti au cours de l'ovogenese," Archives Internationales de Physiologie et de Biochimie, 1989, pp. 71-78, vol. 97, no. 1.

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever

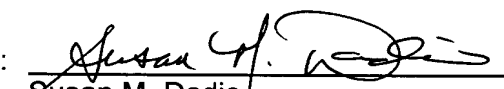
is later. Since these documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R.
§ 1.97(b), no fee or statement is required.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It
is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the
undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date October 20, 2004

By: 
Susan M. Dadio
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(use as many sheets as necessary)

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NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
	VINCENT et al., "Variation de la composition en acides gras des monoesters de zeaxanthine et d'astaxanthine dans l'ovaire et l'hepatopancresa de <i>Panaeus schmitti</i> au cours de l'ovogenese," Archives Internationales de Physiologie et de Biochimie, 1989, pp. 71-78, vol. 97, no. 1.

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.